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ABSTRACT

Wetlands are valuable areas that provide clean water, flood protection, sources of food, recreational opportunities, and various forms of wildlife. This guide is designed to meet the need for comprehensive classroom and outdoor wetland activities for grades K-12. The guide is presented in four sections. An introductory section provides a planning guide with suggested teaching units, background information for teachers about wetlands, and methods of identifying a wetland the class can study. The second section making up the majority of the guide contains the activities. The activities are divided up into five chapters. Chapter 1 contains seven activities to acclimate the class to what a wetland is. Chapter 2 contains 12 activities about wetland plant and animal life. Chapter 3 contains 11 activities about water quality. Chapter 4 contains six activities about the quality and characteristics of wetland soil. Chapter 5 contains two activities about environmental issues related to wetlands. Each activity provides information about the grade level for which the activity is appropriate, educational objectives, suggested teaching methods, time, materials needed, background, and procedures. Two final sections provide a restoration and action guide for students and adults, and a listing of educational supplements, books, films and videos, posters, and organizations to contact for assistance. (MDH)

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